

“Having a Marriage That Lasts”
Genesis 2:4-25

Principle: Marriage doesn't create problems, marriage reveals problems.

Principle: If you were not happy before you got married; you won't be happy after you get married.

“I am loved by God.”

Principle: God is intimately involved in the making of human life.

Principle: You are not here by chance; you are here by God's design and decree.

Principle: You are created as an image bearer of God.

“Life comes from God”.

Principle: Man is created to work.

Principle: The key to a good life is not to be brilliant but to be obedient.

Having a marriage that lasts.

Three stages of marriage:

1. Romance stage
2. Reality stage
3. Rethinking stage

3 choices:

- Settle for the blahs
- Bail on your marriage
- Build your marriage

The foundation of marriage:

1. Marriage is designed by God to meet our core need for companionship.
The wife's primary responsibility is to show herself so well and to respect herself so much that she gives herself to her husband without hesitation.

The husband's primary responsibility is to love his Lord so deeply and to accept himself so completely that he gives himself to his wife without conditions.
2. Everything else is a poor substitute for human companionship.

Four building blocks for marriage:

1. Severance
2. Permanence
3. Oneness
4. Intimacy

Principle: If you are not doing what it takes to achieve oneness, you will move toward isolation.

Practical steps toward a healthy marriage:

1. Accept responsibility for your actions.
2. Believe your marriage can change
3. Commit to doing whatever it takes
4. Deal with unresolved hurts
5. Enlist Support from others

“Lord, help me to communicate better when we don't understand each other. Help me to be more considerate. Help me to be willing to compromise and not always demands my own way and not just think of myself. Help us to restore the courtship in our marriage and focus on having some fun time together and not get too busy for each other but make our relationship a priority to enjoy our life together and express affection. I want to be committed to my spouse. I want my marriage to make it.”

“Jesus Christ come into my life. Save my life and save my marriage. Come in and strengthen my life and marriage. Make me what you want me to be and make our marriage what you want it to be.”